

THERMOFORMING SYSTEM FOR MASKED POLYMERS

Abstract of Disclosure

In a thermoforming system for masked polymer substrate sheets, a temperature resistant, non-stick coating is applied to a sheet of a polymer substrate material. The coated sheet is positioned on a flexible platen positioned over a mold having a predetermined shape. Heat is applied until the polymer reaches a thermoforming temperature and softens, whereupon the platen is lowered to stretch over and cover the mold. When the sheet begins to conform to the mold, the heat is withdrawn and a second platen is lowered over the sheet to urge it into conformance with the mold. The temperature resistant coating can be applied over an existing polymer film masking, and rapidly cures to form a non-stick surface which prevents adhesion of the masked polymer sheet to the platen surfaces.

Figures